



## DOUBLE ISLAND POINT



An Information Hut Training Course for the Double Island Point working holidays will be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 1.00pm (approx 2 hours duration). Numbers are limited, so if you wish to attend this training session please book with Darlene Gower on [dip@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:dip@noosaparks.org.au).

Darlene Gower  
[dip@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:dip@noosaparks.org.au).



## FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

Friday Environment Forum forward program August – September 2017.

Date	Topic	Speaker:
August 4	Insects jumping and sticking to things	Christofer Clemente USC
August 11	Marine Ecology (Title TBC)	Andrew Olds USC
August 18	‘Wild sex - Why Birds don't use dating apps.’	Adrian Caneris
August 25	**Asian House Geckos	Jay Turner Laguna Pest Control
Sep 1	The History of Trees in Buderim and beyond	Meredith Walker
Sep 8	Aboriginal Archaeology	Dr Stephen Nichols, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Sep 15	Noosa Show Day – no forum	
Sep 22	Microbats of the World	John Parsons Fraser Coast Microbats
Sep 29	“Caring for Injured Native Wildlife in Noosa”	Vicky Toomey & Rachael Lyons, RSPCA

\*\*Please note the August 25 talk was originally scheduled for June 23 but was postponed.

Up to date information of each Environment Forum is provided every Tuesday in the Noosa News. A visit to the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) is also recommended to see the innovative approach taken by David Anderson in updating the site each week with the Friday Forum information. You can also view some previous forums by clicking on the You Tube link.

**Dianne Shun Wah**  
**Friday Environment Forum Organiser**  
[fridayforum@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:fridayforum@noosaparks.org.au)

## CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

**So we can keep in contact with you please let us know if you change your email or postal address...**

**Email:** [office@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:office@noosaparks.org.au) **or Post:** PO Box 836, Noosa Heads, Q 4567

## GREENING NOOSA



In June, Noosa Parks Association volunteers worked in the Noosa Parks Association Park on Noosa Spit, cleaning up after damage done by the tail of cyclone Debbie. Many dead branches were pulled down and cut up, the tracks opened up where trees had fallen across them, and lots of weeding done. Hopefully, when this dry period passes, we may be able to plant replacement Banksia trees in the park.

In the meantime, weeders are kept busy in many other places, including around what we call Doggie Beach on the Spit. As well, members work every third Wednesday of each month at Noosa National Park, weeding along the Coastal Track. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service have recently been upgrading a section of the track installing safety fencing and widening the path. In the picnic area near our Noosa Parks Association Information Centre and also at Dolphin Point, open, sunny seating areas have been constructed, for visitor's enjoyment and to limit trampling damage. Everyone is encouraged to experience this upgraded part of the park on a sunny winter morning. Working at the Information Centre here, we member volunteers can let you know where whales, dolphins, koalas, echidnas, goannas, etc have been sighted recently. We open the Information Centre between 8:45am and 4:15pm. We look forward to your visit.

**Glen Gloster**  
Greening Noosa  
Email: [ggnosoa@westnet.com.au](mailto:ggnosoa@westnet.com.au)

The 2017 activity program is on the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) and hard copies are available at the Environment Centre.

## BIRD OBSERVERS' GROUP



As expected, our June speaker, Professor Darryl Jones, was thoroughly entertaining and informative. His subject was 'Corvids' and the presentation included results of intense studies of Torresian Crows and comparing them with Pied Currawong and Pied Butcherbirds for 'cleverness'. There, the Pied Butcherbird out-smarted the others! Vocalization, tool use, and Neophobia were also part of the study.

On Friday August 18<sup>th</sup> yet another very talented speaker will be our guest. Adrian Caneris will deliver his presentation which he has called 'Wild sex - Why Birds don't' use dating apps'.

The July field outing site was new to most of the 19 participants who enjoyed a fine and pleasant day walking the track around the outskirts of the Maleny Golf Course. The group recorded 54 species including Satin Bowerbirds and Russet-tailed Thrush. We moved to nearby wetland ponds after lunch to record a further 30 species. A Brown Skua off Noosa earlier this month was a rare sighting for the Sunshine Coast. A pair of Radjah Shelducks at Tin Can Bay, one lone Yellow-billed Spoonbill at Lake Macdonald, and a pair of Black-necked Stork at Parklakes, Bli Bli are among other sightings.

Enjoy the birds in the winter sunshine.

**Valda McLean**  
Bird Observers' Group  
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## BOTANY GROUP



The coastal heaths will soon be ablaze with wildflowers and there will be a lot going on in Noosa. According to Kathleen McArthur, August is usually the best month for a variety of wildflowers, but flowers even start blooming in mid-winter when the day starts to lengthen.

From the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of August, NICA will be putting on a 'Wallum Festival' in the Bicentennial Hall and Stephanie Haslam was the speaker at the July meeting to tell us all about it. The working committee consists mainly of Botany Group members and we know that it will be an event not to be missed.

On the Botany Group programme, the designated walk for August is to the Arthur Harrold Refuge on the Noosa North Shore and this coincides with the same walk at the Wallum Festival. There is also the same walk taking place at the Sunshine Coast 'Wildflower Festival' on September 1<sup>st</sup> and, as a result, we have decided to cancel the NPA Botany walk in August.

In June, Shirley Williamson continued on with her series of talks about plants from South America that made a huge difference to the rest of the world. This time we learnt about the *Cinchona* trees whose bark contained substances that were especially useful in the prevention and treatment of malaria. The main substance was QUININE and this discovery allowed white men to explore malaria ridden countries in the tropics and develop great empires.

I hope that many of you attended the interesting talk given by Glen Leiper (main author of 'Mangroves to Mountains') at Landcare in June. The new edition of the book, containing about 1,000 new plants will be published in the very near future.

The July walk will take place in the Tewantin National Park, off Beckmans Road. This will be our third attempt at doing this walk. The first time it was flooded, the second time it was burnt out, so third time lucky!

Sonia MacDonald

**Joan Heavey**  
Co-coordinator, Botany Group.  
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The 2017 activity program is on the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) and hard copies are available at the Environment Centre.

## RECEIVE NPA MESSAGES BY EMAIL And help us save

You can help NPA use less paper and spend less on postage by notifying NPA to send you this newsletter, 'Happenings' and other member communications by email rather than post.

If you currently receive NPA mail by post and would like to switch to email, you are welcome to send an email to the Honorary Secretary at [office@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:office@noosaparks.org.au)

## NOOSA TRAMPERS



### Trampers and Saturday Short Walk:

#### 3rd June: Mt Allan.

Last visited in Nov 2013 by 10 members, this time there were 14, plus 1 prospective. Present on both occasions were Stuart, Perfect Peter and myself. We met at Charlie Moreland, on a perfect early winter's morning, crisp, clear and bright. A bit of car shuffling, convoy to the start at Boolumba Creek Camping Area 3. This allowed us to experience the cool rainforest and ephemeral misty Creek. Here we met an unusually tame Azure Kingfisher, called Eric, who lives nearby. Although adding 1.5ks to the overall length of the original 11k walk, this detour was well worth the effort. Leader Terry set a sensible pace on the 420m climb up the zigzag path to the restored fire tower. The map/plotting room is accessible, with obvious fantastic 360 degree views. Returned to CM via the steep Management Track. On the ascent, PP took us behind some rocks to show us his rare Rock Orchids? As mentioned before the Hoop Pine Plantation, denuded in 2013 is now a pleasant green aspect. Retrieved vehicles, stopped at Kenilworth Pub for a convivial beer/lunch.

#### 10th June SSW Tewanin

In cool and beautiful sunny weather 23 NPA members and 6 visiting members set off from Palm Grove Park, Tewanin, under the expert leadership of Joan Heavey. From Harlow Crescent we went bush through Harlow Park into Tewanin Forest Reserve, before heading North through tall timbers interspersed with healthy rainforest sections. This natural earth track is a delight to the eyes, so close to habitation, with the occasional birdsong to add another dimension.

At the intersection with the E-W track which runs from the Northern side of the Daintree Estate along and up to Mt Tinbeerwah we then headed east - not intending to take the climb on this occasion (!) again, along a graded track with tall timber on both sides, arriving behind the first house in Feathertail Court. Here we headed south to follow, then cross, the flood mitigation barriers that now prevent flooding of this housing estate, bringing much interest to some members.

After a pleasant break in the Daintree community park we followed Golf Course Road accessing the NE end of Heritage Park, via Billabong Way. This park is an excellent example of Community support of keeping this park free of invasive weeds- much to the credit of Joan and her fellow supporters. Joan described what work has been achieved (eg. clearing the waterway from the invasive weed, Singapore Daisy) as well as showing us 'before' and 'after' pictures of the weeding efforts. This Park impressed us and is a hidden gem to many.

As we approached the Griffith Ave end of the park we again detoured behind houses to arrive very close to our parked cars around mid-day, an appreciative group having much to discuss after this 6km walk, before heading our own ways home."

#### 2nd July Lockes Lane Lament.

A good turn out for a strenuous walk. Led by Stuart the Stalwart. He led this walk in May 2013. Those present then and now were, Ali, Di and Doug. There were 10 regulars, together with two younger people, who joined us, so they said, "to act as carers". Another perfectly beautiful day in this Eden called Noosa. The reconnoitre the week before felt arduous, however, on the day pace management made the experience far more enjoyable. An 11km, 4.5hr trip in the Mapleton Forest Reserve area of the Northern Blackall Range. Main characteristics were a steep ups, a steep downs, with some flat bits in between and an idyllic tree lined avenue at the end.

## NOOSA TRAMPERS (Continued)

Photos: Let it not be said that Trampers are not fashionable! Here S modelling Rayburns and his attractive painted toe nails!



### 8th July SSW Mt Ninderry

Weather perfect again! A stroll up the rear, I'm sorry I'll write that again, a stroll up the back end, of Mt Ninderry. Not much better eh? PP led 19 participants as only he can, mainly from the back, but with a wealth of knowledge. Despite a couple of minor problems, resolved in the true Trampers spirit of mateship, all completed the route with enthusiasm.

A few up and down slopes and then the track thins out into a rubble path, and gets a little steeper too, although much work has been done to improve the route. By no means the easiest walk, it certainly wasn't the most challenging, when taken at an easy pace. Extremely popular, we were constantly pushing kids, fit young people and babies out of the way. There also seemed to be a local dog show taking place at the top of the mountain!

What magical vistas from a choice of rocky vantage points around the plateau perimeter. Together with some reminders of tragic events. The vivid green cane fields below sprawl out towards the coast, the Maroochy River carving its meandering path through the countryside towards the coast. Mt Coolum an incredible monolithic mound with Old Woman Island a spec in comparison. The Cononadales and the solar farm also visible. Altogether, a great walk, a bit of a challenge, a bit of exercise, incredible views, and more importantly good company.

**Tony King**

**NPA Trampers Coordinator**

**Email: [tkraf22@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tkraf22@hotmail.co.uk) or Ph: 54122824**

**The 2017 activity program is on the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) and hard copies are available at the Environment Centre.**

## COOLOOLA BUSHWALKERS



### K'gari walk – 26-28 May

Twelve enthusiastic hikers boarded Fraser Venture for transfer to Wanggoolaba Creek. The 12 km walk to Lake McKenzie started on a recently graded 4wd track making the going much easier and before we knew it, we were having a break at the southern Wanggoolba Creek crossing. We continued through banksia woodland, open forest and then melaleuca wetland before ascending to the hiker's camp at the lake where a very healthy looking, tagged dingo with a satellite tracking collar came to check us out but soon disappeared. After dinner in the enclosed group eating area, we did a bit of stargazing and saw a falling meteor. The night was disturbed by the squabbles of the flying foxes and a heavy shower.

The next day some of the group stayed at the Lake, others ventured to Basin Lake, which supports frogs and freshwater turtles, to swim, laze and twitch while 5 did a 17.8 km circuit. The diverse circuit retraced yesterday's steps briefly, then ascended to beautiful tourist free Basin Lake for a swim before descending through partly sheltered forest dominated by grey myrtle and then vine forest with kauri pines and palms into Central Station for a break. We then followed the boardwalk along the banks of Wanggoolba Creek passing through a stunning gully of piccabeen palms into Pile Valley where we found impressive stands of the once much logged satinay. We had lunch on the old tramline in the rainforest, feeding a few leeches while we fed and then continued through blackbutt forests arriving at the eastern beach for a tourist free swim before returning to our camp.

On our final day, we set off early for a 14 km walk into Kingfisher Bay Resort. This part of the walk was primarily through banksia woodland and open forest, again using an old tramline to access McKenzie's Jetty on the western beach. This is where we had morning tea before trudging about 3 km along the sometimes very soft western beach and reaching the resort. The state of the sand made the pool swim/shower/beer and food that we found at the Sand Bar a must. Next time I think there might be a mutiny if we don't do the longer ridge walk via the Z special unit camp remains! We then boarded the Kingfisher Bay Ferry to return to River Heads. We're blessed to have K'gari on our doorstep.

### Christian and Liz



## COOLOOLA BUSHWALKERS (continued)

### Gheerulla Falls Walk June 26<sup>th</sup> 2017 – Leader Richard Newport

It was great to have three new walkers amongst the 11 of us that started out from the end of Sam Kelly Road to walk to the Gheerulla falls and back. One of them being Sam, a young American backpacker who arrived at the environment centre at 7.30am on his skate board.

The creek that one generally has to negotiate at the start of the walk was non-existent! No sign of water at all. Also no noise from the motor bike trail that is generally part of the first 15 minutes of the walk! It was a perfect day for walking, cool and sunny. Further upstream where rainforest took over from the eucalyptus trees there was water in the creek, which we crossed a number of times before getting to the falls.

The falls where just a mere trickle and the water-hole below was low and did not look or feel too attractive for swimmers being rather dark and very cold. However sitting amongst the rocks with the sun just making it over the top of the falls provided us with a perfect place for a leisurely lunch. The early afternoon sun enhanced the reflections in the water and highlighted the beautiful grass trees as we retraced our steps back to the cars. We called in to the cafe on the Eumundi Kenilworth Road and the interesting and meaningful debates and stories all added to a make for a great day, a great walk with great company.

Cheers, Richard



Marguerite Wickens  
Cooloola Bushwalkers Coordinator  
Email: [wickins63@dodo.com.au](mailto:wickins63@dodo.com.au)

**N.B. - Please note the changes to some walk dates on the Cooloola Bushwalkers Program. The 2017 activity program is on the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) and hard copies are available at the Environment Centre.**

## EXTENDED OUTINGS

Bunya Mountains in spring, has all the qualities of an ideal holiday destination for the Noosa Parks 'Extended Outing' Group of bush walkers, botanists, bird observers, and maybe even climbers. 'Bunya Mountains Accommodation Tuggan/Mai' has been booked, and participants will be self-catering in cabins from **14<sup>th</sup> September to 21<sup>st</sup> September**. Please register your interest with leader Brian Jones, using the email address below and I will contact you with full details.

**Brian Jones**  
**Extended Outing co-ordinator**  
[brian4565@gmail.com](mailto:brian4565@gmail.com)

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Noosa Parks Association Inc.

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